

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

S E C R E T USNATO 2240

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJ: CSCE: APPRAISAL OF APR 22 NAC CONSULTATIONS

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

REF: USNATO 2176

FOLLOWING APPRAISAL OF THE APRIL 22 NAC CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE
WAS DEVELOPED JOINTLY BY USDEL CSCE AND USNATO:

1. GENERAL -- NAC CONSULTATIONS ON CSCE WERE BOTH SATISFACTORY
AND WORTHWHILE. SEVERAL EC-NINE DELS HAVE INFORMED US
THAT NAC MEETING WENT MUCH MORE SMOOTHLY THAN THE MEETING OF THE
NINE IN BONN. ALL NATO GENEVA DELS, INCLUDING FRENCH, WERE
REPRESENTED, AND THE SUITABILITY OF NAC REVIEW OF STATUS OF CSCE
WAS WIDELY RECOGNIZED. POSSIBILITY FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION IN NAC
AND OTHER NATO BODIES WAS LEFT OPEN AND IT WAS NOTED THAT JUNE
MINISTERIAL COULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR HIGH LEVEL REVIEW
BEFORE GOVTS TAKE FINAL DECISIONS ON THIRD PHASE. EC-NINE
PAPER ON CSCE ISSUES (USNATO 2153), WHICH FORMED BASIS OF
DISCUSSIONS, WAS FOUND GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE BY NON-NINE
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DELS. THE FOLLOWING POINTS, WHICH EMERGED DURING NAC
DISCUSSION, MAY BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO DEPT.

2. TIMING AND LEVEL OF PHASE THREE -- THE NINE EVIDENTLY

DISAGREE AMONG THEMSELVES ON TIMING OF THIRD PHASE, WITH FRG AND NETHERLANDS FAVORING SPET, UK AND OTHERS STILL PREFERRING JULY, AND A THIRD GROUP (BELGIUM, FRANCE) RELUCTANT TO TALK ABOUT ANY DATE PENDING CONCESSIONS FROM EAST. WE ARE TOLD THAT FRG INSISTED ON DELETING EARLIER REFERENCE TO TIMING IN THE NINE PAPER (SEE GENEVA 2213), AND AGREED NINE POSITION APPEARS TO BE ONLY THAT CSCE SHOULD CONCLUDE "AS SPEEDILY AS POSSIBLE." THIS DISARGEEMENT IS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE FULL NATO GROUP. AS FOR LEVEL, THE ALLIES ARE UNANIMOUS IN OPPOSING EARLY COMMITMENT TO A THIRD PHASE SUMMIT. NEVERTHELESS, SOME SEE SOME ADVANTAGE IN HOLDING OUT THIS POSSIBILITY AS AN ENCOURAGEMENT FOR EASTERN CONCESSIONS.

3. MEDITERRANEAN -- THE VIEWS OF THE NINE SEEM TO DIFFER ON THE PRECISE NATURE OF THE NINE'S SUPPORT FOR THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL ON A SEPARATE CSCE MEDITERRANEAN DECLARATION, FOLLOWING WHAT WAS APPARENTLY A MOST DIFFICULT DISCUSSION IN BONN. THE NINE'S APPROVAL OF THE ITALIAN INITIATIVE IS APPARENTLY NOT FINAL, AND WITHIN THE NINE ATTITUDES TOWARD THE ITALIAN PROPOSAL VARY WIDELY. AFTER FORCEFUL STATEMENT BY AMB SHERER (USNATO 2160), POINTING TOWARD SOLUTION TO US-NINE DIFFERENCES ON THIS SUBJECT, SEVERL DELS INDICATED A COMPROMISE MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

4. FOLLOW-UP -- EC-NINE DRAFT RESOLUTION ON FOLLOW-UP (USNATO 2161), TO BE TABLED SHORTLY IN CSCE BY DENMARK, WAS GENERALLY WELCOMED AS AN ATTEMPT TO OFFSET EXISTING SZECH AND YUGOSLAV PROPOSALS, BUT NORWAY AND OTHERS INDICATED SOME RESERVATIONS ON THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF THE RESOLUTION ON THE NEUTRALS. DANES HAVE TOLD US PRIVATELY THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IT WILL STAND UP VERY LONG, AND THAT EVENTUAL COMPROMISE WILL BE REQUIRED.

5. ACCEPTABLE OUTCOMES -- MOST DELS RECOGNIZED THE DIFFICULTY IN TRYING TO DEFINE ACCEPTABLE CONFERENCE RESULTS, AND IT WAS GENERALLY ACCEPTED THAT THIS DEFINITION WILL EMERGE AS THE RESULT OF A CONTINUING APPRAISAL OF CSCE DISCUSSIONS. DELS ALL AGREED THAT, IN ANY CASE, MUCH MORE WILL BE REQUIRED IN BASKET III BEFORE CONFERENCE RESULTS CAN BE
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